



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-3828, **Agenda Item #:** 26.

1/23/2020

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a license agreement with the Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector to authorize the City to issue and pay for registration stickers for City-owned vehicles.

Lead Department

Fleet Mobility Services Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Operating Budget of Fleet Mobility Services. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov or to Gloria Esparza, Deputy Fleet Officer, at 512-974-1720 or gloria.esparza@austintexas.gov.

Additional Backup Information:

In 2015, the state legislature passed a transportation bill that changed how annual vehicle inspections and registrations were done. This change did not provide an exemption from annual vehicle registrations for public sector fleets; therefore, the City was required to register vehicles annually like the general public. Prior to that, public sector fleets were issued Standard Exempt license plates with the word "EXEMPT" printed on the plates when vehicles were first purchased. After that, only annual inspections were required for those vehicles.

The new legislation created a "Two Steps, One Sticker" process. The first step is to get a vehicle inspected; once it has passed, the second step is to renew the registration and obtain a registration sticker as proof of inspection. As a result of the new "Two Steps, One Sticker" process, City vehicles must be taken out of service twice, once for the inspection conducted by Fleet technicians and again to put on the registration sticker after it has been received from the Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector. This results in additional downtime for City vehicles. In order to eliminate the additional downtime, the City needs authorization from the Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector to process and print the vehicle registration stickers by Fleet Mobility Services Department.

The State of Texas Transportation Code, Chapter 520, authorizes the Tax Assessor-Collector in each county to license other governmental entities to process renewals of vehicle registrations consistent with the policies and administrative procedures established by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and the Texas Administrative Code. The Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector and the Fleet Mobility Services Department believe that authorizing the City to act as a Limited Service Deputy of the Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector for the issuance of motor vehicle registration renewal stickers is mutually beneficial to both agencies.

Subject to Travis County Commissioner Court approval, the proposed license agreement will allow the City to be deputized by the Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector to process and print vehicle registration stickers only for vehicles owned by the City. The City will use the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles Web Agent, Web-based Motor Vehicle Registration and Titling system. This is a Remote Sticker Printing System that

allows the City to print registration stickers on-site as needed. Fleet Service Center staff will then be able to place registration stickers on the vehicles after they pass inspection and place them back in service; consequently, this will eliminate the need to bring a vehicle in twice and the associated down time.

The City will process and print approximately 5,000 vehicle registration stickers annually at an estimated cost of \$43,000 annually. Payment for registration stickers will be made to the Travis County Tax Assessor-Collector in accordance with the license agreement. The City will provide and maintain up to \$1000 as ongoing security for the agreement, in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

This agreement is entered into under the provisions of the Interlocal Cooperation Act, Chapter 791, Texas Government Code.